(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Languages in India are not categorised as tribal languages or non-tribal languages. The Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India (RGCCI), categorises Indian languages as either Scheduled or Non-Scheduled. The Twenty-two Indian languages included under the VIII Schedule of the Constitution of India are categorised as Scheduled languages and in addition one hundred minor Indian languages are categorised as Non-Scheduled languages by the RGCCI.

The Government of India provides support to documentation, description categorisation, classification and production of materials in tribal languages. The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore under the Centre for Tribal and Endangered Languages conducted fieldwork on 80 of these languages and produced phonetic readers, grammars and dictionaries as part of their linguistic description.

This Ministry has reviewed with the States and Union Territories, the progress made in the preservation and development of minor Indian languages including tribal languages, which are not covered under the VIII Schedule of the Constitution of India. It was noticed that States/Union Territories have taken concrete action to develop these minor languages.

Fake currency

†*153. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of sudden increase in the value of fake currency in circulation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of fake currencies seized from different States in the country, especially from Uttar Pradesh, during the last two years and the details of their denominations and value; and

(d) the special action being taken by Government to deal with the problem of circulation of fake currency?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has reported that the total value of counterfeit currency seized by law enforcement agencies and recovered through banking channels during the year 2007, 2008 and during January-March, 2009 was Rs.10,54,18,925/-, Rs.21,45,27,797/- and Rs.4,09,49,465/- respectively.

(c) As per the information furnished by NCRB, the amount of fake currencies seized from different States/UTs in the country including Uttar Pradesh, with details of denominations and value, during the last two years and upto March, 2009 is as follows:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Denomination-wise number of pieces seized

Year (Jan-Dec.)	5	10	20	50	100	500	1000	Total Pieces	Value (in Rs.)
2007	71	220	421	12,518	1,28,745	74,404	14,959	2,31,338	6,56,72,375
	(0)	(70)	(247)	(2,113)	(28,452)	(21,126)	(1,588)	(53,596)	(1,51,07,490)
2008	1	201	326	20,088	87,068	82,341	21,116	2,11,141	7,20,06,235
	(0)	(8)	(15)	(12,688)	(20,089)	(14,501)	(1,973)	(49,274)	(1,18,67,180)
2009	1	3	34	1,125	8,845	13,019	3,238	26,265	1,06,88,965
(upto 31.3.09)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)

Figures in brackets relate to Uttar Pradesh.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to curb circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) in the country include stepping up of vigilance by the Border Security Force and Custom authorities to prevent smuggling of fake notes; dissemination of information on security features through print and electronic media and formation of Forged Note Vigilance Cells in all the Head Offices of the banks. Additional security features have also been incorporated in the bank notes in 2005 to make counterfeiting very difficult. To strengthen the security of bank notes further, incorporation of latest security features is underway. A High Level Committee headed by the Union Home Secretary comprising officials from central agencies and other senior police officials has been constituted to monitor and draw a comprehensive strategy to combat FICN. Similar bodies have also been set up in the States. In addition, Government of India have nominated the Central Bureau of Investigation as the Nodal Agency to monitor investigation of fake currency note cases. The RBI has also strengthened the mechanism for detection of counterfeit notes by the Banks.

Strike by employees of Air India

*154. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India's 30,000 employees have threatened to go on strike after they were told that their June salaries would be delayed whereas previously they were given bonuses continuously for three years even when airline was making losses;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State-owned Air India (AI) has accumulated losses of Rs. 4,334 crore and taken an overdraft of more than Rs. 16,000 crore to meet its working capital expenses; and

(c) if so, whether he has so far reviewed the finances of AI and taken any decision for its survival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No strike notice was issued by any Union. However, Unions resorted to other means of protest against the deferment of salaries.

(b) NACIL is estimated to incur a loss of Rs. 5000 crore in 2008-09 and as on date its working capital limits are Rs. 16000 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir. A comprehensive restructuring plan for Air India is under formulation.

Payment of dividend by profit earning banks

†*155. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Banks have earned profit during the financial year 2008-09;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.